

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This application has been carefully considered in light of the non-final office action on the merits mailed April 01, 2005. As a result, minor amendments have been made to the claims in an effort to distinguish the invention further with respect to the prior art. In addition, claim 10 has been added. Claims 1-7, 9 and 11 remain in the application.

Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being directly anticipated by US Patent 6,190,252 to Makeeff. Claims 4, 8, 10 have been indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter.

In view of the indicated allowability of claims 4, 8, and 10, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 8. Claim 1 should therefore be in condition for formal allowance, which action is respectfully solicited.

In view of the indicated allowability of claim 10, claim 9 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 10. Claim 9 should therefore be in condition for formal allowance,

which action is respectfully solicited. Claims 8 and 10 have been canceled.

The claims depending from claims 1 and 9 should now be in condition for allowance as depending from allowable independent claims.

New claim 11 has been added which is a combination of claims 1 and 4 as previously submitted. Due to the indicated allowability of claim 4, this claim should also be in condition for formal allowance.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this response or the amendments to the claims or the allowability of the claims with respect to prior art, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would contact the undersigned Attorney-of-Record for purposes of scheduling a personal interview in order to further expedite the prosecution of this application.

An earnest effort has been made to place the application in condition for allowance which action is solicited.

Appl. No. 10/814,172 Response to Final Office Action of 12/07/04

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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